The new classification of income ceiling will enable Economically Weaker Section/Low Income Group (including minority community) beneficiaries in finding better quality of house. The new classification is in the process of formulating Interest Subsidy Scherne for Economically Weaker Section/Low Income Group category (including minority community).

**Educated unemployed**

†4645. SHRI KRISHAN LAL BALMIKI: Will the Minister of HOUSING AND URBAN POVERTY ALLEVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of the educated unemployed persons in the country, State-wise;

(b) whether there is any proposal to raise the age of educated unemployed persons from 35 years to 40 years to get loan for self-employment;

(c) if so, the details thereof and the decisions taken in this regard;

(d) the interest rates of the nationalized banks for this kind of loans; and

(e) whether there is any proposal to reduce these rates for the welfare of unemployed persons?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HOUSING AND URBAN POVERTY ALLEVIATION (KUMARI SELJA): (a) The State-wise number of educated job seekers registered with the employment exchanges in the country as on 31.12.2005 is given in the Statement. (*See* below).

(b) and (c) Under the Prime Minister Rozgar Yojana (PMRY), which is a scheme to provide employment to educated unemployed youth by setting up of micro-enterprises, being implemented by Ministry of Agro & Rural Industries, the age related eligibility criteria are:—

(i) 18 to 35 years for all educated unemployed.

(ii) 18 to 40 years for all educated unemployed in North-Eastern States, Himachal Pradesh Jammu & Kashmir and Uttarakhand.

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(iii) 18 to 45 years for Scheduled Caste/Scheduled Tribe, ex-servicemen, physically disabled and women.

In so far as Ministry of Housing & Urban Poverty Alleviation is concerned, it is implementing an employment oriented urban poverty alleviation scheme named Swarna Jayanti Shahari Rozgar Yojana (SJSRY), since 1.12.1997. The scheme strives to provide gainful employment to the urban poor by assisting them to set up of individual/group micro-enterprises as well as utilising their labour for the construction of socially useful public assets under the wage employment component. Under SJSRY, no age limit has been prescribed for assistance for self employment.

(d) Under both the above Schemes, normal bank rate of interest is charged. The interest rate under Prime Minister Rozgar Yojana shall not exceed the Prime Lending Rate of the banks.

(e) As such there is no proposal to reduce the interest rate.

***Statement***

*State-wise number of educated job seekers registered with the employment exchanges in the country as on 31.12.2005.*

(In Thousands)

| Sl. No. | State/Union Territory | Live Register (P) |
|---|---|---|
| 1 | 2 | 3 |
| 1. | Andhra Pradesh | 1698.7 |
| 2. | Arunachal Pradesh | 15.4 |
| 3. | Assam | 1224.0 |
| 4. | Bihar | 1107.8 |
| 5. | Chhattisgarh | 864.1 |
| 6. | Delhi | 501.3 |
| 7. | Goa | 86.2 |
| 8. | Gujarat | 742.3 |
| 9. | Haryana | 883.1 |

| 1 | 2 | 3 |
|---|---|---|
| 10. | Himachal Pradesh | 689.5 |
| 11. | Jammu & Kashmir | 75.0 |
| 12. | Jharkhand | 682.8 |
| 13. | Karnataka | 1026.6 |
| 14. | Kerala | 3040.9 |
| 15. | Madhya Pradesh | 1695.0 |
| 16. | Maharashtra | 2931.3 |
| 17. | Manipur | 342.8 |
| 18. | Meghalaya | 24.3 |
| 19. | Mizoram | 20.4 |
| 20. | Nagaland | 25.8 |
| 21. | Orissa | 717.5 |
| 22. | Punjab | 358.4 |
| 23. | Rajasthan | 615.1 |
| 24. | Sikkim* | |
| 25. | Tamil Nadu | 2485.4 |
| 26. | Tripura | 162.2 |
| 27. | Uttaranchal | 319.4 |
| 28. | Uttar Pradesh | 1463.9 |
| 29. | West Bengal | 3911.0 |
| 30. | Andaman & Nicobar Islands | 18.2 |
| 31. | Chandigarh | 31.2 |
| 32. | D & N Haveli | 3.3 |
| 33. | Daman & Diu | 4.5 |
| 34. | Lakshadweep | 6.3 |
| 35. | Pondicherry | 180.4 |
| | TOTAL: | 27954.1 |

Note:- Figures may not add up to total due to rounding off.

* No Employment Exchanges is functioning in this State. (P) Provisional.